

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on July 8, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

**2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE**

Present: Commissioners \*Cohen, Kimmel-Dagostino, G. Davis, Kraemer, Miranda, Virobik and Chairperson K. Davis

Absent: None

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

\* Commissioner Cohen arrived at 10:00 a.m.

**3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

*Courage is a process. The greatest glory in living, lies not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail.*

Nelson Mandela

*Not only in answering questions, but in asking them, courage is required.*

Mortimer J. Adler

*Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak, and courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.*

Winston Churchill

*Humility means accepting reality with no attempt to outsmart it.*

Psychotherapist David Richo

*Some people believe in holding on and hanging in there are signs of great strength.*

*However, there are times when it takes much more strength to know when to let go and then do it.*

Ann Landers

Commissioner Virobik provided the following inspiration:

*Nothing could be worse than the fear that one has given up too soon, and left one unexpended effort that might have saved the world.*

Jane Addams

**4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Virobik moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of July 8, 2014. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent \*Commissioner Cohen)

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Virobik seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 13, 2014, as submitted.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent \*Commissioner Cohen)

## **6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Commissioner Griffith, Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA)

Julie Dojiri, Civic Affairs Chairperson for South Bay New Horizons

Debbie Reed, Senior Supervisor, Community Services Department

Former Commissioner Robelotto

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand welcomed Senior Supervisor Reed to the Commission meeting and announced that Senior Supervisor Reed, because of reorganization in the department, would replace her as the staff liaison to the Commission on Aging, effective in August or September. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she had very much enjoyed her 20 years working with the Commission and that she would miss working with all of the Commissioners.

## **7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS**

### **A. City Council Activities**

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Older Americans awards had taken place. She announced that there would be a triathlon in Hollywood Rivera in September.

Commissioner Kraemer noted that the items in the City that citizens were most dissatisfied with were: traffic and the condition of the roads and sidewalks. She reported that more money had been put into the budget to address some of the problems. She added that a slurry seal program was underway and that efforts were being made to obtain a grant to repair the sidewalks.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that there had been a 21% turnout for the election in June. She stated that she would be interested to learn whether or not the National AYSO tournament had been beneficial for the City.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that there would be a boundary adjustment for Rolling Hills Estates and the City.

Commissioner Kraemer noted that there had been long discussions at the Council meeting on Car2Go and the changes to the street sweeping policy.

There was a discussion of the revised street sweeping policy and the new signs that would need to be placed.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that a five year contract for the Senior Tours had been awarded to Main Street Tours with a total not to exceed \$79,560 per year.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Council was still discussing licensing for massage parlors and ordinances for regulating clothing collection bins on private property.

Former Commissioner Griffith discussed a planning issue involving a home that had been before the Council for several meetings.

### **B. Housing**

There was a discussion of Welbrook Senior Living housing soon to open in Torrance and Belmont Village in Palos Verdes.

### **C. Health**

Commissioner Cohen presented a thank you letter to the Commission from Harriet Apsel to Chairperson K. Davis.

There was a discussion of the textured mats that were on the sidewalks ramps at intersections.

Commissioner G. Davis reported on a study of 200,000 older veterans with traumatic brain injuries that were found to 60% more likely to develop Alzheimer's.

Commissioner G. Davis noted that if there was a defibrillator on site at retailers with trained personnel, it could save 8% to 30% of lives. There was a discussion of defibrillator training for City employees.

Chairperson K. Davis discussed an article in the AARP magazine regarding over medication problems in nursing homes and the amount of training needed to be a certified nursing assistants (CNA).

There was a discussion of the backlog of nursing home complaints.

Chairperson K. Davis announced that there was health information available at Focal Point.

Commissioner Cohen stated that he would email the New Horizons newsletter to all of the Commissioners.

Commissioner Cohen reported that the Fire Department would deliver the vials of life to the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

#### **D. Transportation**

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino reported that Transit had submitted a federal transit grant for \$4.1 million which would support: the fleet preventive maintenance program, the purchase of tires and an above ground storage tanks, the replacement of the transit facility roof and the remodeling of the operations dispatch area and the modernization of the service parts room. She noted that the grant was anticipated to be awarded around August 15.

Commissioner Virobik reported on the Car2Go program and noted that the fees ranged from 41 cents per minute to \$84.99 per day.

There was a discussion on the Car2Go program.

#### **E. Community Programs**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that Main Street Tours had won the bid for the Tour program and added that registration would be held on July 25. She noted that the two tours would be the Pompeii exhibit at the Science Center with lunch at Philippe's and the Big Bear Lake Oktoberfest.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that Rock around the Block would be held on July 17 and that July 12 and 13 were Fort MacArthur Days in San Pedro. She noted that the Rose Float fundraiser location would be at the El Paso Cantina on July 10 and the California Pizza Kitchen on July 24. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she had the fundraiser flyers at her office if anyone needed one.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino reported that the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Disaster Service Volunteers, Torrance Amateur Radio Association (TARA) and the Animal Disaster team were being reorganized and would now all report to the office of Emergency Services. She stated that all the groups would begin cross training and noted that the new Emergency Coordinator was Soraya Sutherlin.

Chairperson K. Davis reported that the Woman's Club volunteered for the H.E.L.P. fundraiser and the Torrance Memorial Medical Center golf fundraiser.

#### **F. Focal Point Program**

Commissioner Virobik reported the following Focal Point statistics for the month of:

## June 2014

Total number of documented calls: 24	Total number of callbacks: 22
Miscellaneous calls: 59	Total number of walk-ins: 23
Total number of calls received: 83	

Of the documented calls:

21% were for transportation	71% were for housing
12.5% were for in home services	

Commissioner Virobik reported that there had been four reported cases of financial elder abuse. She noted that if Focal Point received the abuse complaints they were able to report the abuse to the authorities.

### **G. Elder Abuse/Fraud**

Commissioner Virobik reported on an article from the Police Department on using gel pens to prevent check washing fraud.

There was a discussion on phone scams and door-to door sales.

## **8. DISCUSSION ABOUT POTENTIAL COMPUTER PROGRAM AT BARTLETT CENTER**

Commissioner Virobik reported that a request had been placed for a cost analysis to be completed for the computer project. She explained that the computer would be used for seniors to access email, write letters and receive training in the general use of computers. She added that the City would install and maintain the computer.

**MOTION**: Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Miranda seconded, to move forward with the computer program at the Bartlett Center. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

## **9. ANNUAL REPORT**

Chairperson K. Davis stated that the Commission had received a draft of the report in addition to a copy of the Focal Point Annual Report.

Commissioner G. Davis requested that page three of the Annual Report, under Affordable Housing, second paragraph, after Westchester Playa Village, be corrected to read, "which is a volunteer program that involves a co-op community of services, vendors, social activities, and volunteer opportunities to enable seniors to remain independent and stay in their own homes."

It was decided to move the entire paragraph and place it under, "Community Programs."

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that she would make the corrections and bring the report back to the Commission for final approval.

## **10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that there were no term limits for officers or rules of seniority.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino nominated Commissioner K. Davis for Chair and Commissioner G. Davis for Vice Chair.

Commissioner G. Davis accepted the nomination.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino moved and Commissioner Miranda seconded, to nominate Chairperson K. Davis as Chair and Commissioner G. Davis as Vice Chair. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Chairperson K. Davis thanked the Commission for the privilege and stated that she was proud of the work that the Commission had accomplished over the last year.

Commissioner G. Davis thanked Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino for her time as Vice Chair.

There was a discussion of the role of the Commission.

## **11. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Miranda reminded the Commission that City Clerk Herbers' retirement party was today, July 8 at 3:00 p.m.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand announced that the farewell party for Mayor Scotto and Council members Brewer and Sutherland would be on July 23 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Toyota Meeting Hall.

Commissioner Kraemer requested an excused absence for the August meeting.

Senior Supervisor Reed thanked Commissioner Cohen for volunteering his time to Beat the Odds for the Youth Council.

Chairperson K. Davis stated that she would inform Senior Supervisor Reed of the details of the next Woman's Club music program.

Chairperson K. Davis welcomed Former Commissioner Robelotto to the meeting. Commissioner Robelotto described her recent travels and her work on the Rose Garden and the dog park.

Vickie Hershberger of Torrance Memorial Medical Center distributed information on an integrative medicine lecture on July 29 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Hoffman Health Conference Center at Torrance Memorial Medical Center. She reported that the Advantage newsletter had been redesigned and would be mailed out in the near future. She announced an open house on September 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the new Lundquist Tower and noted that the staff move-in date was scheduled for November 15, 2014. She described the upcoming classes, lectures and available support groups. She added that there would be a celebration of the second birthday of the Learning Garden on July 14 at 9:00 a.m.

There was a discussion of the changes in health group names and administrative duties in the Torrance system. Vickie Hershberger stated that she would bring an explanation of the different groups and their relationships to the next meeting.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m. to the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 12, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

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Approved as submitted August 12, 2014 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk
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